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CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES
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Agenda item 6 (d)

OTHER MATTERS REQUIRING ACTION BY THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES: REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION, AND OF ITS INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS, INCLUDING SUPPORT TO REGIONAL PROGRAMMES

Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Romania, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan: draft decision

Regional cooperation between countries of eastern and central Europe

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling the statement made by the President of the Conference of the Parties at its first session 1/, noting the wish of some eastern and central European countries to establish an additional regional instrument to the present Convention,

Further recalling United Nations General Assembly resolution 52/198 of 18 December 1997, paragraph 6, inviting the Conference of the Parties to facilitate the elaboration of an additional regional implementation annex to the Convention for the countries of the eastern and central European region,

Stating its understanding that the wish of the concerned countries indicates their firm resolve to become soon Parties to the Convention by completing the process of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession,

1. *Urges* observer countries from eastern and central Europe to ensure the early completion of the necessary process of accession to the Convention, thereby facilitating adoption of the additional annex to the Convention by the Conference of the Parties at its fourth session;

1/ ICCD/COP(1)/11, paragraph 53.

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2. *Takes note* of the progress made through the informal consultations aimed at producing a draft additional annex to the Convention;

3. *Invites* countries of eastern and central Europe to pursue consultations with a view to producing an agreed draft additional annex to the Convention;

4. *Further invites* the countries of eastern and central Europe to submit a draft additional annex to the Convention for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its third session;

5. *Requests* the secretariat to continue to support the process under the guidance of the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties.